(g) The Government of India had set up a National Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Yash Pal, former Chairman, University Grants Commission to advise on the ways and means to reduce academic burden on school students. In the 50th meeting of the Central Advisory Board on Education (CABE) held on 2.3.94, State Governments expressed their broad agreement with the recommendations of the Yash Pal Committee. The consensus of such views was identified and the course of action to be adopted by the State Governments suggested to them.

[English]

SC/ST Person on Board of Directors of ITDC

790. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any SC/ST person was appointed on the Board of Directors of India Tourism Development Corporation Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The existing rules do not specifically provide any reservation in the matter of appointment of Directors on the Board of ITDC.

Development of National Highways in Maharashtra

791. SHRI RAJABHAU THAKRE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received financial assistance from the World Bank and Asian Development Bank for developing National Highways in Maharashtra State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Four laning and strengthening of existing two lane road in Manor—Bassein Creek section (length 58 km.) of NH 8 in Maharashtra is included in Second National Highway Project under World Bank loan assistance. The estimated cost of the project is about Rs. 217 crore. No financial assistance has been received from Asian Development Bank for developing National Highways in Maharashtra.

[Translation]

Hotels for Middle Class

792. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are unable to construct hotels for middle class due to the non-availability of land;

(b) if so, the places for which the Government have decided to construct hotels for the middle class during the last two years; and

(c) the price at which the land was available at these places and the price at which the Government intended to purchase it?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c) Construction of hotels is primarily a private sector activity. In order to encourage construction of such accommodation, the Government of India provides incentives like interest subsidy which is available to one, two and three star hotels on loans taken from specified financial institutions, reduced duty on import of project equipment/capital goods and raw materials etc. The Government also offers exemptions under Income Tax Act.

Petrol Pump

793. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Petrol Pumps set up in Madhya Pradesh and the cases pending for setting up them;

(b) whether there is any scheme to set up new Petrol Pumps in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of Petrol Pumps allotted to the people belonging to Scheduled Castes/Tribes and backward class out of them;

(e) whether the system of reservation has been followed in the allotment of the above petrol pumps;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the time by which the sanction are likely to be accorded for setting up new Petrol Pumps?